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APPL. NO.: 10/598.048 GROUP ART UNIT: 1612

DOCKET NO.: 10/598,048

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-270 (canceled)

271. (currently amended) A method of treating or preventing an ophthalmologic disorder characterized by an accumulation of retinotoxic compounds in the cells of the retinal pigment epithelium in a subject comprising administering to [[a]] the subject a pharmaceutically acceptable amount of fenretinide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

272. (previously presented) The method of claim 271, wherein fenretinide inhibits, antagonizes, or short-circuits the visual cycle at a step of the visual cycle that occurs outside a disc of a rod photoreceptor cell.

- 273. (previously presented) The method of claim 271, wherein the ophthalmologic disorder is macular degeneration.
- 274. (withdrawn) The method of claim 271, wherein the ophthalmologic disorder is Stargardt's disease.
- 275. (withdrawn) The method of claim 271, wherein the ophthalmologic disorder is lipofuscin accumulation.
- 276. (previously presented) The method of claim 271, wherein fenretinide increases the rate at which 11-cis-retinal is isomerized to all-trans-retinal; inhibits, antagonizes, or short-circuits the visual cycle in the retinal pigment epithelium; inhibits at least one of lecithin retinol acyl transferase, isomerohydrolase, and 11-cis-retinol dehydrogenase, or inhibits binding to RPE65.

Claims 277-279 (canceled)